

# End of War

**Pray that people and countries may stop fighting  
and work for peace.**



Do you ever get in fights with your brothers and sisters or friends at school? Fighting can cause a lot of problems. When children fight it can cause hurt feelings or even injuries. Sometimes disagreements can cause even bigger problems. Wars happen when countries or groups of people aren't able to solve their disagreements.

This month Pope Benedict is asking us to pray for an end to all wars. Wars hurt people, and the Pope wants the world to be safe for everyone. If the world were a safer place it would be easier for missionaries to teach others about God.

How can we work for peace? Pope Benedict wants us to "open our hearts to love" so we can end war. Even though you may not be able to solve disagreements between big countries, you can show peace every day in your own life.

Jesus taught us to treat others the way we want to be treated. If everybody did what Jesus taught, there would be no war. Treat your family and friends with kindness. If you disagree with them, talk about it and solve your problems peacefully. Pray for others all over the world who live where there are wars.

## ***Think about it!***

- Why do wars happen?
- How can you work for peace?
- How did Jesus ask us to treat other people?



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## *Peace Hand Flowers*



This project helps you and your family work together to make something beautiful. It's a great way to show that you and your family can unite peacefully.

**Materials:** Paper or construction paper, scissors, crayons, glue

### **Directions:**

#### **Step 1:**

- **Option 1:** Trace hands of family members on white paper, wrapping paper, or colored paper. Color, print, or decorate them.
- **Option 2:** Make handprints with paint and let them dry.

**Step 2:** Print the sheet on the next page in color or black and white. Color, paint, or decorate the stems and leaves.

**Step 3:** Cut out the handprints, stem, and leaves.

**Step 4:** Place the stem and leaves on a piece of paper and glue them down.

**Step 5:** Position the hand prints with the largest hand in the back, and the smallest hands in the front. Make the thumbs face toward the outside.

### **Additional ideas:**

- Glue a small family picture to the flower.
- The smallest hand in the family (a toddler or baby) could be the leaves.
- Family members can sign their names to their handprints.

